1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Southern Region	602971	74953087	731944	104188134	940845	142800750
30.	Andhra Pradesh	148248	23020307	164838	29379501	193399	39070661
31.	Karnataka	83704	11081813	110188	16968126	134548	23530016
32.	Lakshadweep	6	1156	11	1900	13	1558
33.	Tamil Nadu	219323	22854901	306895	34921514	405270	50211989
34.	Kerala	146871	17479043	144099	22336788	199746	28990025
35.	Puducherry	4819	515867	5913	580305	7869	996501
	All India	1002059	140120255	1214883	197480781	1567991	270022675

Source: RBI (RPCD)

Revision of norms regarding LIC agents

2041. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Life Insurance Corporation's (LIC) agents working in the country;

(b) the total amount of business canvassed by the LIC agents in the last three years;

(c) whether the guidelines and norms with regard to LIC agents have been revised recently;

(d) if so, the reasons for such revision;

(e) whether these revised guidelines and norms are disadvantageous to the LIC agents;

(f) the likely number of LIC agents who would have to leave the LIC following implementation of the revised guidelines; and

(g) the reasons for taking such a step, detrimental to both the LIC and its agents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has reported that the total number of LIC agents as on 31st October, 2009 is 14,15,369 and the total amount of business achieved by LIC Agents in the last three years is as follows:

Financial Year	First Premium Year (Rs. in lakh)
2006-07	38,87,873
2007-08	43,00,465
2008-09	34,24,462

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Life Insurance Corporation of India (Agents) Rules, 1972 which contains terms and conditions of service of agents have been revised by the Central Government under Section 48(2) (cc) of Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956. The amendments in LIC (Agents) Rules 1972 were made with the objective to achieve growth, productivity and retention of agents by arresting the trend of termination of their services.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g) Does not arise.

Non-declaration of dividends by Mutual Fund Companies

2042. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large number of Mutual Funds have not declared dividend for years inspite of their earnings being more than 10 per cent for a particular year/ period;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the number thereof for the last three years ending 30 November, 2009; and

(c) what type of supervision is exercised by Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on such mutual funds to ensure that the small investors get dividends which are due on a regular basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) As per extant SEBI regulations, it is not mandatory for mutual fund schemes to provide for and to declare dividend. A mutual fund may declare dividend in accordance with the offer document and subject to specified guidelines. The quantum of dividend is fixed by trustees and is paid subject to availability of distributable surplus.

According to SEBI regulations a mutual fund may declare dividend after making appropriate disclosure through notice or advertisements where applicable as per SEBI regulations. Every mutual fund and Asset Management Company is required to dispatch to the unit holders the dividend warrants within 30 days of the declaration of the dividend.

Cut in lending rates by banks

2043. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked the public sector banks to examine the possibility of cutting lending rates in the present period of recession;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how the common man especially the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families would benefit from such measures in the country especially the SC/ST people?